

II. REMARKS

Claims 15-28 and 32-38 were pending in the subject application. In the response filed January 9, 2004, claims 15 to 19, 21, 22, 25, 26 and 33 to 38 were canceled and claims 20 and 23 were amended. In this Supplemental amendment, new claims 38 and 40 (corresponding to previously canceled claims 17 and 18) have been added. Support for new claims 17 and 18 can be found in the specification on pages 14 through 16. An issue of new matter is not raised by the addition of these new claims and entry thereof is respectfully requested.

The cancellation of claims and amendments of the claims are made without prejudice or disclaimer. These claim changes are not intended to be a dedication to the public of the subject matter of the claims as previously presented. Applicants expressly reserve their right to file one more claims of the same or similar scope in a continuation application.

In view of the preceding amendments and the remarks and amendments filed January 9, 2004, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections to the claims is respectfully requested.

III. CONCLUSION

If a telephone interview would advance prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number provided below. In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and/or the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the

Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 50-2518**, referencing billing number 7003392001.

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Respectfully submitted,

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